

CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE

Minutes of a Meeting held in Room AD-128 of the Administration Building,
Loyola Campus, at 5:30 p.m. on November 21, 1977

PRESENT: Prof. F. W. Bedford, Chairman, Dr. E. Enos, Mr. M. Flynn, Mr. J.A. Sproule, Mr. J. Macaluso, Mr. B. Counihan, Mr. B. Philip, Mr. F. Denton, Prof. R. Allison, Prof. W. Gilsdorf, Prof. Brian Slack, Mr. R. Davies, Ms. M. O'Dea, Mr. D. Martin, Mr. N.-W. Cloutier, Mr. K. Boyle, and Ms. N. Cooper, Secretary.

ALTERNATES: Ms. J. Richardson for Mr. J. Hopkins and Mr. J. Lacombe for Mr. A. Vaughan.

ABSENT: Dean A. Audet, Ms. B. Litner, Prof. L. Van Toch, Prof. T. Fancott, Mr. J. James, Ms. N. Marrelli, Ms. S. Kerr, Mr. O. El-Awadi, Ms. S. Howlett, Mr. Y. Dubois, Mr. J. McCully, Mr. G. Matteo, Rev. R.E. O'Connor, S. J.

Chairman's Remarks

77.11.1

A quorum being present, the Chairman opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. He introduced Prof. Brian Slack, who will represent the Sir George Williams faculty on Council for a two-year term commencing May 1, 1977. Prof. Bedford announced that the Rev. R. E. O'Connor, S. J. will replace Mr. J. J. Pepper, Q. C. as the representative of the Board of Governors.

The Chairman reported that he had received a reply from Father Graham, dated November 15, 1977, in answer to his queries concerning the graduated Student Services Fee and computer information vis à vis the number of students enrolled for 3 credits, 6 credits, etc. The Vice Rector is confident that these statistics will be available by the middle of December and Prof. Bedford stated that he would forward the information to the Finance Committee immediately he received it. With regard to long range enrolment projections the Chairman was referred by Father Graham to Mr. D. Hamblin and he will follow this up.

The Chairman announced with regret that Dean Audet was in hospital, and with permission of Council a Get Well card will be sent to him on behalf of CCSL.

Approval of Minutes of October 17, 1977

77.11.2

On MOTION of Ms. O'Dea, SECONDED by Mr. Macaluso, the Minutes of the previous meeting held on October 17, 1977 were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

77.11.3.0

a) Ad-Hoc Committee on Awards

As the various student bodies were not prepared at this meeting to report the wishes of their associations, on MOTION of Dean Flynn, SECONDED by Mr. Counihan, this item was TABLED until the December meeting in order to allow the associations time to discuss this concept with their constituencies.

77.11.3.1 b) Recommendations of the 1977 Yearbook Committee

Recommendations, prepared by Mr. Counihan, were distributed to members. After assurance from Mr. Counihan that an editorial staff representing the various student associations was in place under his direction it was MOVED by Mr. Counihan, SECONDED by Mr. Macaluso

"THAT the Concordia Council on Student Life publish a 1978 Concordia Yearbook."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

77.11.3.2 c) Recommendations of the Graduation Banquet and Ball Committee

Ms. Joan Richardson presented the final financial statement from the 1977 Graduation Banquet and Ball Committee as well as three recommendations for the coming year.

After questions from the floor, it was MOVED by Ms. O'Dea, SECONDED by Mr. Counihan

"THAT a Graduation Banquet and Ball Committee be struck, with a Chairman and faculty representative to be appointed by CCSL; each of the student associations to appoint a responsible member."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

77.11.3.3 d) Guest Speaker - Dr. John O'Brien

The Rector entered the meeting and addressed the group observing that CCSL is a relatively new body in the University. At the time of the merger policy for the area of student services was not set out in the agreements as was done for other areas. Thus, it took 2 or 3 years to establish a structure to fulfill the functions of the Council.

He stated that the over-all structure for student services is in many ways beyond the control of the University because of the way in which the Province finances universities. Sir George Williams was reasonably familiar with its functioning, but Loyola was historically outside the university system rules and was substantially different.

The Quebec university system sets out a structure for student services which grants a partial government subsidy and requires a student service fee to make up the difference. Student services has more freedom of action than many other parts of the University because it is the only area in which more money can be generated to meet more needs; or fewer needs can be met with less money depending on the student service fee. This fee can be raised and theoretically it can be lowered. Practically, Dr. O'Brien stated, in these times lowering the fee would take a great deal of doing.

The role of CCSL is that of informing the University what things are more important or less important in the area of student services. While the professional staff have input, there is a need for a group which represents the users of the services and the University community in a broad sense to indicate to the administration which programs should be developed and which programs could be dispensed with.

The purpose of CCSL is to give guidance at the policy level as to what things are more or less important. CCSL is at the earliest phase of this, and there are some things that can be changed in a short space of time, but many will take a longer period to change. Planning which was initiated before CCSL came into existence may result in a situation which will have a bearing on what CCSL can do. An example given by the Rector was athletic facilities and the possible use of Olympic installations. This would change the configuration of that Department to a considerable degree. While the costs of renting and operating that space would presumably be borne by a special government grant, the cost of athletic programs in those facilities would have to form part of the budget that is financed through student services.

It is this kind of planning and priority consideration that CCSL was introduced to provide to the University. Dr. O'Brien stated that this is not an easy task, particularly in the early years when there is no established set of understandings with which to work. This is a crucial period for CCSL, said the Rector and either this Council will make it work or it will find that it cannot in the forthcoming months.

The meeting was then opened to questions.

The possibility of the Government increasing its grant to student services in the future was queried. Dr. O'Brien stated that historically the increase has been a matter of indexing the existing level by something approximating the rate used in other parts of the system, but the Government makes no pretense that it intends to cover all the costs of student services. The matter of the publicized eighteen month lead time for implementation of budget changes required further clarification. The Rector stated that there are perhaps two categories of changes which could take 18 months. One deals with items which must be introduced for the month of September, thus affecting the pattern of the whole academic year. The other relates to proposals which would affect employment of professional staff, where it is reasonable for people to be given several months' notice before termination. The reason an 18 month time period is specified is that there is a tendency for bodies like CCSL to reach decisions in April and, since university planning is usually done on a September to September basis, any changes proposed after Christmas become increasingly difficult to implement for the following September.

In reply to a question about the possibility of the Government approving an increase in tuition fees, the Rector declared it highly unlikely, although there may be an increase in fees for out-of-country students.

Regarding tuition waiver for student services personnel being included in the budgets of the various student services departments instead of the general budget as is done in many Quebec universities the Rector agreed that this question could be re-examined in the light of any new evidence.

With respect to enrolment figures for the current year, Dr. O'Brien stated that the figures quoted in a recent "Thursday Report" were accurate, but were on a head count basis which is largely meaningless for budgetary calculation purposes; the smaller .8% loss in full-time enrolment is more significant than the larger 4.1% for part-time students. When asked about enrolment

projections for the next few years, Dr. O'Brien stated projections in this area are very difficult. The demographic impact will reach the university in another few years, but at university level this is a much less dependable indicator than at the elementary level. Economic conditions could either help or hinder enrolment, but inevitably the enrolment trend is going to be down for the next few years.

After thanks from the Chairman on behalf of the Council, Dr. O'Brien stated that if any specific questions arose he would be happy to try and provide answers and he would be glad to come back at some future date if a more general discussion seemed to be useful.

Reports of Area Directors

77.11.4

Mr. Sproule reported that on-campus recruiting had received a very positive reaction from the recruiters on the calibre of students seen. Career Planning and Job Search workshops are in progress on both campuses. The reading and study skills program is progressing well and the writing tutorials are well attended. The Loyola Evening Students' Association expressed the hope that it would be relieved of the financing of these programs which are needed on both campuses. Mr. Sproule expressed the belief that other areas of the university were concerned about the writing level of students and the program might be accommodated in the academic area. Guidance is carrying it as a pilot project but has no money to continue it. This would require an extension of budget and would have to be studied by both Priorities and Finance Committee.

Dean Flynn reported routines continuing. DSA and the Dean of Students Office had worked on space submissions on the Sir George Williams Campus. Capital submissions had been prepared for the Chaplains' office and the Health Centre and a request had been received for a Health Unit in the new Fine Arts complex on Dorchester Street. Monies received by students last year in the form of loans increased by \$114,270 over the previous year, while bursaries increased by \$393,000 for the same period.

Dr. Enos endorsed Dean Flynn's plea for additional recreational space allocations on the Sir George Williams Campus. The Bio-Physical Education Department is expecting a \$56,000 grant from the government to test physical fitness at Concordia as well as other locations in the city. With regard to the Olympic facilities Dr. Enos stated that a meeting was planned to discuss the possible use of Olympic facilities and the financial aspects involved - staffing, operation and transportation - so that people from both campuses could use facilities for handball, squash and swimming. Before any contract is signed, however, this matter would be placed before Council and the Board of Governors.

Report of the Finance Committee

77.11.5

Mr. Macaluso, Chairman of the Finance Committee, read a letter he had received from Father Graham, dated November 11, 1977, enclosing the line budgets for each of the student service areas. Other information requested by Mr. Macaluso would be forwarded as soon as possible.

Fincom had held a meeting with the Treasurer of the University to discuss the graduated fee. The Treasurer could see no disadvantages in it believing it to be equitable, easily understood by students and it was his opinion that it would not influence registration figures. As soon as essential statistics concerning the number of students registered for 3 credits, 6 credits, etc. become available, Fincom will present a written report to Council.

The view was expressed that the question of a percentage fee should be debated by Council prior to any budget discussion and that a comparative study be undertaken on student service fees in other universities before the next meeting of Council.

Report of Priorities Committee

77.11.6

Dean Flynn reported that a meeting of this Committee had been called for November 7, but as only four members were present no business was conducted.

New Business

77.11.7.0

a) Notice of Motion - Birks Hall (CCSL-77-11-D1)

It was MOVED by Dean Flynn, SECONDED by Mr. Macaluso

"THAT a high priority be given to ensuring that Birks Hall be maintained as an intramural center or that a similar facility be included in any future construction on the downtown Campus."

Mr. Martin reported that the consensus at Steering Committee was that the wording should be stronger and more imperative. After discussion it was suggested that the Motion begin with the words "THAT Birks Hall be maintained...."

On MOTION of Dean Flynn, SECONDED by Prof. Allison the Motion concerning Birks Hall was accepted in principle and referred to Steering Committee for re-wording and information on administrative plans for the future status of Birks Hall.

MOTION CARRIED.

77.11.7.1. b) Notice of Motion - Study Week -(CCSL-77-11-D2)

In this connection Prof. Bedford reported that he was in receipt of a copy of a letter, dated August 3, 1976, from the Registrar to the Deans' Committee outlining reasons why a study week would conflict with the university calendar.

After discussion, it was MOVED by Dean Flynn, and duly SECONDED

"THAT a Study Week be approved in principle, AND

THAT the resolution be referred to Steering Committee for re-writing, the understanding being that support would be needed from many areas of the university and if it is not possible for this year it should be re-worded for future years."

MOTION CARRIED.

Other Business

- 77.11.8.0 a) On MOTION of Prof. Gilsdorf, SECONDED by Mr. Counihan, it was decided to invite Rev. A. Graham, S. J. to speak at the next meeting of CCSL. Suggestions for topics which Council would like Father Graham to address himself to included:
- i) the Vice Rector's administrative priorities for the student services area.
 - ii) disposition of any surplus monies or deficit from previous years.
 - iii) the handling of problems connected with a decrease in enrolment and cut back in student services.
- 77.11.8.1 b) It was MOVED by Mr. Davies and duly SECONDED that a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr. John Mathewson, newly elected President of CUSA.

Date of Next Meeting

- 77.11.9 After debate concerning the advancing of the date of the next meeting by one week, it was decided to meet on the regular date, December 19, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 769 of the Hall Building, Sir George Williams Campus.
- 77.11.10 The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.